

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KINSHA 06918 251054Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EB-07 ISO-00 /014 W
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R 250942Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3786

UNCLAS KINSHASA 6918

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BBAK, CG

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

1. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE COMMERCE CONTACTING DETROIT DIESEL (D-D) DIVISION OF GENERAL MOTORS IN DETROIT (TELEPHONE 313-592-5000) TO DETERMINE CURRENT RELATIONSHIP OF D-D TO ITS FORMER ZAIRIAN AGENT, BLACKWOOD-HODGE, ZAIRE (B-H, ZAIRE).

2. FYI: B-H, ZAIRE, NO LONGER EXISTS UNDER THAT NAME. SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION, SOGEFINA, NOT RELATED TO UK-BASED WORLD-WIDE BLACKWOOD-HODGE. SOGEFINA, WE ARE TOLD, NOW CLOSE TO DEFUNCT. MEANWHILE, CONSIDERABLE D-D EQUIPMENT IN USE IN ZAIRE. POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE BUSINESS AND CURRENT NEED FOR SPARE BOTH SIGNIFICANT.

3. REPUTABLE LOCAL FIRM, AFRIMA, PART OF LONDON-BASED LONRHO ORGANIZATION WHICH, FOR EXAMPLE, IS D-D SPARE PARTS AGENT FOR BELGIUM, INTERESTED IN REPRESENTING D-D HERE IF FORMER RELATIONSHIP NO LONGER EXTANT. OTHERS PERHAPS INTERESTED ALSO. EMBASSY NOT RPT NOT DESIROUS CARRYING BALL FOR AFRIMA OR ANYONE ELSE. HOWEVER, WE VIEW CONTINUED EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION OF D-D AS BEING IN OVERALL US INTEREST. END FYI.

4. LOCAL GM ASSEMBLY OPERATION NOT RPT NOT RELATED TO D-D VISION OF GM AND NOT IN POSITION TO SUPPLY NEEDED INFORMATION.

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5. EARLY RESPONSE WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

ANDREW

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